

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ACCRA 7123

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GH
SUBJ: PRE-32ND UNGA CONSULTATIONS WITH GHANAIS

REF: STATE 205678

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR MADE DETAILED PRESENTATION ON UNGA ISSUES TO SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL WHO WILL BE KEY MEMBER OF GHANADEL. DEMARCHE WAS WELL RECEIVED, BUT GHANAIS ARE INCREASINGLY DISTURBED BY THREAT OF SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR CAPABILITY AND URGE USG TO STEP UP THE PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA--BOTH TO BRING SMITH TO HIS KNEES AND TO FORCE PACE OF EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA. ALTHOUGH GHANADEL MAY EXERCISE QUIETLY SOME MODERATING INFLUENCE IN UN CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS, WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT THEM TO GET TOO FAR AWAY FROM THE LEAD GIVEN BY OTHER AFRICAN STATES. END SUMMARY

2. AS PER REFTTEL, AMBASSADOR ON SEPT 14 HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF ISSUES TO BE FACED IN THE RESUMED 31ST UNGA AND 32ND REGULAR SESSION WITH MFA SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY (POLITICAL) HENRY SEKYI. SEKYI IS A PRINCIPAL ADVISOR TO COMMISSIONER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
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FELLI AND WILL BE MEMBER OF GHANADEL. A FORMER GHANAIS HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LONDON, HE IS AN ABLE AND CONSCIENTIOUS CAREER OFFICER WHO CLEARLY HAS FELLI'S EAR AND CONFIDENCE.

3. IN FRANK 75 MINUTE DISCUSSION, AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED OUR DESIRE TO MAINTAIN ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH THE GOG

WHICH HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED ON THESE AND SIMILAR ISSUES. AMB NOTED WE HAD REGULARLY MADE AVAILABLE TO SENIOR GOG OFFICIALS SPEECHES AND STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT, SECRETARY VANCE, AMB YOUNG AND HOPED THAT THESE, ALONG WITH OUR FREQUENT DISCUSSIONS, WERE FOUND USEFUL. SEKYE SAID OUR DIALOGUE WAS INDEED VALUABLE TO THEM AND THAT THEY ALSO WISHED TO CONTINUE IT. AMBASSADOR SAID WE ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO GHANAIAVIEWS ON THESE QUESTIONS. WE DID NOT PRETEND TO HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS AND WOULD WELCOME GOG COMMENTS, WHETHER THEY AGREED WITH OUR VIEWS OR NOT. SEKYE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND SAID HE HOPED TO GET BACK TO US SOON WITH MORE MEASURED COMMENTS AFTER OUR PRESENTATION HAD BEEN DIGESTED.

4. AMBASSADOR UTILIZED ALL TALKING POINTS IN REFTEL ON RHODESIA, APARTHEID, NAMIBIA, NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE, KEY NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES, NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, MIDDLE EAST, PUERTO RICO, GUAM AND HUMAN RIGHTS. AT END OF DISCUSSION, AMBASSADOR LEFT AIDE-MEMOIRE COVERING MAJOR POINTS, FOR WHICH SEKYE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION.

5. IN RESPONDING ORALLY, SEKYE MADE FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS ON INFORMAL BASIS;

A. RHODESIA--SEKYE SAID GOG DID NOT REGARD OAU
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ACTION RE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS "IGNORING ANOTHER MAJOR LEGITIMATE POLITICAL FORCES IN THE COUNTRY." GOG CONTINUED TO LOOK TO PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE ULTIMATELY TO DECIDE LEADERSHIP QUESTIONS. IN MEANTIME, HOWEVER, THEY BELIEVED THE PF REPRESENTED THE "PREEMINENT" ELEMENT OF THE ARMED STRUGGLE AND THOUGHT THEY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AND SUPPORTED AS SUCH. GOG ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO A UNIFIED ARMED STRUGGLE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF IN LIGHT OF SMITH'S INTRANSIGENCE. HE ALSO THOUGHT USG SHOULD EXERCISE MORE "MUSCLE" ON SOUTH AFRICA, WITHOUT WHOSE SUPPORT SMITH WOULD QUICKLY COLLAPSE. GOG ALSO FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND USG RELUCTANCE TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS UNDER ARTICLE 41 OF CHARTER. AMBASSADOR'S EXPLANATION OF FIRST AMENDMENT PROBLEM APPEARED NOT TO CONVINCE SEKYE, WHO DREW DISTINCTION BETWEEN ITS APPLICABILITY TO AMCITS AND FOREIGN NATIONALS AND URGED THAT WE FIND MEANS OF CLOSING RHODESIAN INFORMATION OFFICE IN U.S.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ACCRA 7123

B. APARTHEID--SEKYI WARMLY WELCOMED OUR REVIEW OF OVERALL RELATIONSHIPS WITH SOUTH AFRICA BUT EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER SOUTH AFRICA'S GROWING NUCLEAR CAPABILITY. THIS, HE FELT, HAS INTRODUCED A NEW AND EXTREMELY DISTURBING DIMENSION WHICH POSED A "MUCH GREATER THREAT TO WORLD PEACE TODAY THAN RHODESIA HAD IN THE SIXTIES." GHANA AND OTHER AFRICAN STATES WERE VERY VULNERABLE TO THIS THREAT FROM SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH ALSO JEOPARDIZED WHOLE NON-PROLIFERATION MOVEMENT. HE ASKED RHETORICALLY HOW AFRICAN STATES COULD AVOID STRIVING TO ACHIEVE NUCLEAR CAPABILITY WHEN THEY WERE CONFRONTED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN THREAT.

C. NAMIBIA--SEKYI CONTINUES TO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW TRULY FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS CAN BE HELD

IN NAMIBIA GIVEN THE PRESENCE OF A SOUTH AFRICAN

ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL AND SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS. HE DOUBTED THAT THE PRESENCE OF A UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WOULD MEET SWAPO'S OBJECTIONS BUT SHARED AMBASSADOR'S HOPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS.

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6. AT END OF DISCUSSION, SEKYI AGAIN RETURNED TO THREAT OF SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR CAPABILITY AND DANGERS IT

POSED NOT ONLY TO AFRICA BUT EVENTUALLY TO THE WEST AS WELL. HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT VORSTER WOULD BACK DOWN UNDER PRESENT PRESSURES. GOG FELT STRONGLY THAT ONLY SEVERE AND EFFECTIVE SANTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BRING THE SAG TO ITS SENSES. HE AGAIN THANKED AMBASSADOR FOR COMING IN AND FOR MAKING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO GOG.

7. COMMENT: SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES CONTINUE TO BE THE ONLY REAL ISSUES IN GHANAIAI EYES, AND WHILE GHANAIAIS MAY BE A HELPFUL MODERATING INFLUENCE IN CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK, WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT THEM TO WANDER FAR FROM LEAD GIVEN BY MORE MILITANT AFRICAN STATES. IN SOME RESPECTS, SEKYI IS MORE HAWKISH IN HIS VIEWS THAN COMMISSIONER FELLI, BUT THEY CERTAINLY AGREE THAT DESPITE OUR TOUGHENING ATTITUDE TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA, USG SHOULD AND COULD BE DOING MUCH MORE.
SMITH

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